

Applicant : Funahashi et al.
Serial No. : 09/502,698
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Attorney's Docket No. 14875-056001

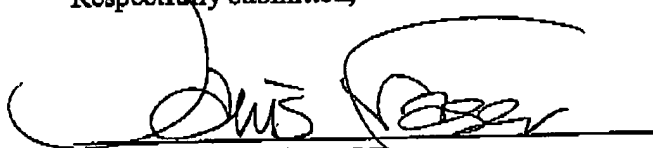
REMARKS

Claim 26 has been amended. Claims 38 and 39 are new. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 3, 26-27, and 35-39 will be pending. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment to rejoined claim 26 and new claims 38 and 39. Claims 3, 26-27, and 35-37 were allowed in the Notice of Allowance mailed August 31, 2005. Claim 26 has been amended to depend from claim 3 rather than claim 1. New claim 38 is identical to claim 26, except that it depends from claim 35 rather than claim 3. New claim 39 is identical to claim 27, except that it depends from claim 38 rather than claim 26. These amendments merely correct the improper format of rejoined claim 26 as depending from a canceled claim (i.e., claim 1). The proposed amendments do not add new matter and do not require additional searches or examination.

In a telephone call on September 12, 2005, with Dr. Margo Furman, an associate of the undersigned, the Examiner agreed to enter these amendments into the case once they were filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. No fees are believed to be due. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050, referencing attorney docket number 14875-056001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

Sept. 14, 2005
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